



## General Meeting

Friday January 18, 2013

7:30pm

Our Saviors Lutheran Church  
1035 Carol Lane Lafayette

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Affiliated  
Club

## January Meeting Program

# Using Microcontrollers for Ham Radio Projects

This month's guest speaker is George Zafiropoulos, KJ6VU who will be taking about the use of microcontrollers for ham radio projects. George makes and sells microcontroller kits geared to ham radio applications, repeater controllers and is currently working on using his gear to do remote control of ham radio stations.

George has been a licensed ham radio operator since 1972. His interests are building repeater systems, QRP and helping other hams learn to design and build their own equipment. He is on the board of the Cactus Intertie in Northern California and the Bay-Net repeater system. He is co-designer of the Sierra Radio repeater control system, HamStack microcontroller platform and is currently involved in designing an internet-enabled remote shack control system.

73,  
John Weldon  
KJ6GLQ  
Vice President



# Selected Operating Events



**North American QSO Party-Phone**  
1800Z January 19 to 0600Z January 20  
<http://www.ncjweb.com/naqrules.php>

**ARRL January VHF Contest**  
1900Z January 19 to 0400Z January 21  
<http://www.arrl.org/contests>



**CQ World Wide 160 Meter Contest**  
2200Z January 25 to 2200Z January 27  
<http://www.cq160.com>

**Classic Radio Exchange for Vintage Equipment**  
1400Z January 27 to 1400Z January 28 (CW only)  
<http://www.classicexchange.org>

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**Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club W6CX**  
P.O. Box 23222 Pleasant Hill, CA 94523  
(925) 288-1730

*The Carrier* is a monthly publication of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC). It is the policy of the editor to publish all material submitted by the membership provided such material is in good taste, relevant to amateur radio and of interest to MDARC members, and provided space is available.

**President** - Jim Siemons, AF6PU  
**Vice President** - John Weldon, KJ6GLQ  
**Secretary** - Steve Rogge, K6XZ  
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**Director & Education and Training Committee Chair**  
John Primus, AF6RJ [af6rj@arrl.net](mailto:af6rj@arrl.net)

**Director At Large**  
Ron Luttringer, K6XC  
Dave Gordon, N6SWE

**PACIFICON 2013**  
Co-Chair: Paula Costa, KI6MPD  
Co-Chair: Jim Siemons, AF6PU  
Registration Chair: Misa Siemons, KJ6BUE  
Treasurer: Mike Patterson, N6JGA  
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**Membership Chair** - Tom Deeble, KA6SIP  
[mdarcmembership@mdarc.org](mailto:mdarcmembership@mdarc.org)

**The Carrier** Newsletter  
Editor, Matthew G. Vurek, N4DLA [n4dla\\_cs245@yahoo.com](mailto:n4dla_cs245@yahoo.com)

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Volunteer Examinations - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB  
Public Service - Pete Harris, KE6ZIW  
Field Day Chairs - Lauren Styles, WA6CIE and Elizabeth Styles, KG6HLV  
Communications Trailer - Brent Morgan, AF6HQ

*Amateur Television Help and Information:*  
John Schuler, W6DTV [JOHNQRZ@aol.com](mailto:JOHNQRZ@aol.com)

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE CLUB YAHOO GROUP. DOWNLOAD FILES, INCLUDING *THE CARRIER* IN FULL COLOR AS WELL AS SHARE INFORMATION WITH THE MEMBERSHIP AT:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mdarc>

## President's QTC



Happy New Year! MDARC experienced a great 2012, with many activities, great training, some excellent Club meetings, and we put on one heck of a PACIFICON.

2013 is lined up to be a remarkable year. We have planned to keep all the great things that we have done in the past, with some new activities, such as Tech Saturdays and a of interesting tours. Stay tuned!

I want to thank the great work of the MDARC board for 2012. Dick Fletcher AF9RF has been doing a yeoman's job as our Club's Secretary for the past three years. He has faithfully recorded our General and Board meetings, as well as handled incoming emails to MDARC.

Misa Siemons KJ6BUE has done an outstanding job as Treasurer for the past two years. Additionally, she has been PACIFICON Treasurer and Registration Chair. There are almost too many things that Misa has been involved with to aid in keeping our Club running to properly list. I am related to Misa through marriage, and am very proud of all her hard work.

Our MDARC Education Team is working on a very aggressive schedule of running license and license upgrade classes. John Primus AF6RJ and his entire team work tirelessly around the year to design and bring these great classes to our amateur radio community. They have a class that is starting currently, and it seems to already be completely full. That is a testament to the popularity of their program and the need for such classes in our area.

Chuck Graham KI6DCD and Rich Lueck KI6REL have been doing great work as one of our key interfaces with the Salvation Army and administrative duties for the Education Team. Additionally, these gentlemen have been working on restarting the Tech Saturday program. Chuck is spearheading a program on Buddipole antennas. It is going to be fun to see where these weekend trainings and activities go?!

The move of MDARC's ATV repeaters to North Peak of Mount Diablo is well underway. A small group from the Tech Committee traveled up to North Peak and received the access codes and the key to gain access. The site was inspected and measurements were taken for coax run lengths and equipment positioning. A week later, all the new ATV gear meant for the installation up on North Peak was laid out at Elk Antennas warehouse, and determinations of additional gear that will need to be purchased, and a final plan for installation was created. It is a very exciting time for ATV and the amateur radio community.

I want to encourage all MDARC members to sign up on the MDARC Yahoo! group. This is a great place to find out what's happening within MDARC quickly, and efficiently. Another great aspect of the Yahoo! group is the ability to ask questions about amateur radio, such as: what kind of antennas to use, how to pick the right radio for you, and how best to operate. It is a great environment to share ideas and information and Elmer each other. So, if you haven't already signed up to be part of the Yahoo! group MDARC reflector, I highly recommend that you do so.

The PACIFICON planning committee is already in full swing for 2013. You are invited to join us and be part of a really great group of hams. We have a great time, learn a lot, and have terrific experiences that are hard to duplicate. Currently, we are meeting the second Monday of each month at the Concord Salvation Army.

Until our next contact, I hope to see you soon.

73,  
Jim Siemons AF6PU



# **G.O.T.A. Seminar**

## **"Getting On The Air"**

# **Forming Now!**

The **Salvation Army** together with the  
**Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club**  
will hold a 2 part seminar where you can develop your  
**Amateur Radio License Getting On The Air skills**

This is your next step after becoming licensed. This is your chance to  
learn the how to and techniques of Emergency Communications on  
Ham Radio and the excitement of Getting On The Air.

This seminar is to upgrade your current Technician skills!



## **Seminar Times...**

**Part 1 Thursday March 28, 2013**

**Part 2 Thursday April 4, 2013**

**At 7-9 pm**

**The Salvation Army**  
**3950 Clayton Road, (at West St.)**  
**Concord 94521**



*Registration is required.*

Class is FREE but there is a \$5 materials fee - No Textbook is needed.

**Follow up training continues throughout the year.**

**Stay tuned at [www.SATERNConcord.org](http://www.SATERNConcord.org)**

**To sign up email: [HamRadioClass@gmail.com](mailto:HamRadioClass@gmail.com)**

For voice mail or fax: 925 465-9554

**ARRL** The national association for  
**AMATEUR RADIO**

# Ham Radio Seminar

The **Salvation Army** together with the  
**Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club**  
Will be holding a Saturday Antenna Seminar  
Featuring...



By David Haycock KI6AWR



## Proposed topics (partial list)

- 1) Antenna basics
  - a. How to make an antenna radiate
  - b. Antenna configurations
- 2) Antenna tuning
  - a. Unraveling the mysteries
  - b. Using an antenna analyzer
  - c. SWR – what does it mean, what is good enough?
- 3) Basic examples of BP tuning

**Saturday January 19, 2013**

**1-4+ pm**

**The Salvation Army**

**3950 Clayton Road, (at West St.)**

**Concord 94521**

Seminar is FREE but I would like to know you want a seat.  
Follow up training and License classes are also available.

**Email to: [KI6DCD@gmail.com](mailto:KI6DCD@gmail.com)**

**ARRL** The national association for  
**AMATEUR RADIO**

# HAM RADIO OUTLET

## 12 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU !

Free UPS ground delivery in Continental USA for most orders over \$100  
HRO has Twelve Store Buying Power Working For You

### HRO - 12 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU

Free UPS ground delivery in Continental USA for most orders over \$100

HRO has Twelve Store Buying Power Working For You

All HRO stores open 10AM-5:30PM, Telephone hours 9:30AM-5:30PM



### Order Toll-Free From a Location Near You

*If your closest 800 number is busy, please call one of our other numbers.*

*Phone Hours: 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM Monday - Saturday*

For delivery charges or other information about ordering, please see our [Frequently Asked](#)

### HRO Store Contact Information

Store	E-mail	Direct	Toll Free	Fax
Anaheim, CA	ana@hamradio.com	1-714-533-7373	1-800-854-6046	1-714-533-9485
Atlanta, GA	atl@hamradio.com	1-770-263-0700	1-800-444-7927	1-770-263-9548
Burbank, CA	bnk@hamradio.com	1-818-842-1786	1-800-854-6046	1-818-842-5283
Denver, CO	co@hamradio.com	1-303-745-7373	1-800-444-9476	1-303-745-7394
Newcastle, DE	del@hamradio.com	1-302-322-7092	1-800-644-4476	1-302-322-8808
Oakland, CA	oak@hamradio.com	1-510-534-5757	1-800-854-6046	1-510-534-0729
Phoenix, AZ	px@hamradio.com	1-602-242-3515	1-800-444-9476	1-602-395-1244
Portland, OR	or@hamradio.com	1-503-598-0555	1-800-854-6046	1-503-684-0469
Salem, NH	nh@hamradio.com	1-603-898-3750	1-800-444-0047	1-603-898-1041
San Diego, CA	sd@hamradio.com	1-858-560-4900	1-800-854-6046	1-858-560-1705
Sunnyvale, CA	sun@hamradio.com	1-408-736-9496	1-800-854-6046	1-408-736-9499
Woodbridge, VA	va@hamradio.com	1-703-643-1063	1-800-444-4799	1-703-494-3679



## **The Carrier**

Newsletter of the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 23222

Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

[www.mdarc.org](http://www.mdarc.org)

# **FIRST CLASS**

## **W6CX Nets**

*Monday 7:00 pm Washington High School Net 147.060+*

*Monday 8:00 pm SATERN Net 147.060+*

*Thursday 7:30 pm MDARC Club Net 147.060+*

*Thursday 8:00 pm General ATV Net 1241.250+*

*Tuesday 7:30 pm Fat City 10 meter USB/CW Net 28.420 MHz*

FM 147.060 MHz + / PL 100Hz - EchoLink: W6CX-R /133896, IRLP: 3057  
224.780 MHz - / PL 77Hz 441.325 MHz + / PL 100Hz

**D-STAR** 145.000 *offset plus 2.5 MHz*

<https://stn3057.ip.irlp.net/status.html>

ATV Input: 1289.25 MHz AM/FM. Outputs 1241.25 MHz AM 919.25 MHz AM

**ATV Internet Stream:** <http://www.w6cxatv.net/live>

## **Contra Costa County Emergency Communications Nets**

*Every Thursday*

<http://www.coco-races.org/meetings/nets/>

*6:35 pm HF Countywide 3.893 MHz LSB*

*6:45 pm West County 145.110-- (82.5 PL)*

*7:00 pm Central County 145.680 Simplex*

*7:00 pm East County 146.535 Simplex*

*7:00 pm South County 146.355+ (77.0 PL)*

*7:20 pm Countywide 145.490-- (107.3 PL)*

## **January 2013 and February 2013 Club Calendar**

Friday January 18, 2013	7:30 pm	MDARC General Meeting <i>Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette</i>
Saturday February 2, 2013	9:00 am	MDARC Technical Committee <i>Environmental Center, 2581 Harbor Street, Pittsburg</i>
Monday February 4, 2013	7:00 pm	MDARC Board Meeting <i>Black Bear Restaurant, 700 Bancroft Avenue, Walnut Creek</i>
Friday February 15, 2013	7:30 pm	MDARC General Meeting <i>Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette</i>